Listing of the Claims

1. (currently amended) A digital camera, comprising:

a user interface receiving specification of an arbitrary aspect ratio from a user ~~that allows the specification of an aspect ratio~~ at which to produce a digital photograph taken by the camera, ~~and wherein the specification of an~~ the arbitrary aspect ratio ~~is accomplished by~~ indicating a standard photographic print format; and

a preview mode display showing only the portions of a scene within the specified arbitrary aspect ratio by cropping a resulting final photograph to the specified arbitrary aspect ratio.

2. (currently amended) The digital camera of claim [[2]] 1, wherein indicating a standard photographic print format comprises selecting a standard photographic print format from a list of standard photographic print formats.

3. (original) The digital camera of claim 1, further comprising a preview mode, and wherein the camera indicates, during the preview mode, that a portion of a scene viewed by the camera is outside the specified aspect ratio.

4. (original) The digital camera of claim 3, wherein the camera indicates that a portion of a scene viewed by the camera is outside the specified aspect ratio by displaying that portion as grayed out in a display of a preview image.

5. (original) The digital camera of claim 3, wherein the camera indicates that a portion of a scene viewed by the camera is outside the specified aspect ratio by displaying that portion as blacked out in a display of a preview image.

6. (original) The digital camera of claim 3, wherein the camera indicates that a portion of a scene viewed by the camera is outside the specified aspect ratio by displaying, in a display of a preview image, lines indicating the limits of the specified aspect ratio.

7. (original) The digital camera of claim 1, further comprising a preview mode in which the camera does not display any portion, of a scene that is viewed by the camera, that is outside the specified aspect ratio.

8. (original) The digital camera of claim 1, wherein the camera crops the digital photograph to the specified aspect ratio, and stores the resulting cropped digital photograph.

9. (original) The digital camera of claim 1, wherein the camera stores the digital photograph at its uncropped size, and stores at least one aspect ratio specification as metadata with the digital photograph.

10. (original) The digital camera of claim 9 wherein the digital photograph is stored in a JPEG file, and the aspect ratio specification is stored in an APP segment in the JPEG file.

11. (original) The digital camera of claim 9 wherein the digital photograph is stored in a JPEG file, and the aspect ratio specification is stored in a comment segment in the JPEG file.

12. (original) The digital camera of claim 9 wherein the digital photograph is stored in a TIFF file, and the aspect ratio specification is stored in tag data in the TIFF file.

13. (original) The digital camera of claim 1 wherein the aspect ratio specification occurs before the digital photograph is taken.

14. (original) The digital camera of claim 1 wherein the aspect ratio specification occurs after the digital photograph is taken.

15. (canceled).

16. (currently amended) The digital camera of claim [[15]] 1 wherein the arbitrary aspect ratio is specified by a numerical value.

17. (currently amended) The digital camera of claim [[15]] 1 wherein the arbitrary aspect ratio is specified by specifying a width and a height for the photograph.

18. (currently amended) A digital camera user interface configured to allow a user of the digital camera to specify an arbitrary aspect ratio at which to produce a photograph taken by the digital camera, and wherein the aspect ratio is specified by designating a standard photographic print format; and the user interface showing portions of a scene within the specified arbitrary aspect ratio by cropping a resulting final photograph to the specified arbitrary aspect ratio.

19. (original) The digital camera user interface of claim 18, wherein the user interface presents a list of standard photographic print formats, and the camera user, using user controls, selects a standard photographic print format from the list.

20. (original) The digital camera user interface of claim 18, further comprising a display, and wherein the display is used to display a preview image, the preview image containing an indication that a portion of a scene is outside the specified aspect ratio.

21. (original) The digital camera user interface of claim 20, wherein the indication that a portion of a scene is outside the specified aspect ratio is performed by showing that portion as grayed out in the display.

22. (original) The digital camera user interface of claim 20 wherein the indication that a portion of a scene is outside the specified aspect ratio is performed by showing that portion as blacked out in the display.

23. (original) The digital camera user interface of claim 20 wherein the indication that a portion of a scene is outside the specified aspect ratio is performed by showing lines demarking the limits of a scene portion that is within the specified aspect ratio.

24. (original) The digital camera user interface of claim 18 further comprising a display, and wherein the display is used to display a preview image, the preview image not containing any portion, of a scene viewed by the camera, that is outside the specified aspect ratio.

25. (original) The digital camera user interface of claim 18 wherein the aspect ratio is specified using user controls on the camera.

26. (original) The digital camera user interface of claim 18 wherein the aspect ratio is specified using an external device, and the specified aspect ratio is communicated from the external device to the camera.

27. (original) A digital camera user interface configured to allow a user of the digital camera to specify an arbitrary aspect ratio at which to produce a photograph taken by the digital camera.

28. (original) The digital camera user interface of claim 27, wherein the arbitrary aspect ratio is specified by a numerical value.

29. (original) The digital camera user interface of claim 27, wherein the arbitrary aspect ratio is specified by specifying a height and a width for the photograph.

30. (currently amended) A method, comprising specifying, to a digital camera, an arbitrary aspect ratio at which a photograph taken by the digital camera is to be used, by choosing a standard photographic print format from a list of standard photographic print formats, the specified arbitrary aspect ratio taking the value of the arbitrary aspect ratio of the chosen standard photographic print format.

31. (original) A method, comprising specifying, to a digital camera, an arbitrary aspect ratio at which a photograph taken by the digital camera is to be used.

32. (currently amended) The method of claim [[31]] 30, wherein specifying an arbitrary aspect ratio comprises selecting a numerical value for the aspect ratio.

33. (original) The method of claim [[31]] 30, wherein specifying an arbitrary aspect ratio comprises selecting a width and a length for the photograph.

34. (currently amended) A method, comprising:

a) accepting a designation of a standard photographic print format; and

b) using an arbitrary aspect ratio of the standard photographic print format as a specified aspect ratio at which a digital photograph is to be produced by a digital camera.

35. (original) The method of claim 34, wherein the designation of a standard photographic print format is accomplished by selecting a standard photographic print format from a list of standard photographic print formats.

36. (original) The method of claim 34, further comprising:

a) displaying, on a display on the digital camera, a preview image; and

b) indicating, in the preview image, a portion of the preview image that is outside the specified aspect ratio.

37. (original) The method of claim 36 wherein indicating a portion of the preview image is accomplished by showing that portion as grayed out in the display.

38. (original) The method of claim 36 wherein indicating a portion of the preview image is accomplished by showing that portion as blacked out in the display.

39. (original) The method of claim 36 wherein indicating a portion of the preview image is accomplished by showing lines in the display delimiting that portion of the preview image that is outside the specified aspect ratio.

40. (original) The method of claim 34, further comprising:

a) displaying, on a display on the digital camera, a digital photograph taken by the digital camera; and

b) overlaying, on the digital photograph displayed on the display, a selection rectangle having an aspect ratio equal to the specified aspect ratio.

41. (original) The method of claim 40, further comprising accepting directions for moving the selection rectangle.

42. (original) The method of claim 40, further comprising accepting directions for resizing the selection rectangle.

43. (original) The method of claim 34, further comprising:

a) storing the digital photograph at its uncropped size; and

b) storing at least one specified aspect ratio as metadata with the digital photograph.

44. (original) The method of claim 43, wherein the digital photograph is stored in a JPEG file, and the specified aspect ratio is stored in an APP segment in the JPEG file.

45. (original) The method of claim 43, wherein the digital photograph is stored in a JPEG file, and the specified aspect ratio is stored in a comment segment in the JPEG file.

46. (original) The method of claim 43, wherein the digital photograph is stored in a TIFF file, and the specified aspect ratio is stored in tag data in the TIFF file.

47. (original) A method, comprising accepting into a digital camera a specification of an arbitrary aspect ratio at which to produce photographs taken by the digital camera.

48. (currently amended) The method of claim [[43]] 47 wherein the specification of an arbitrary aspect ratio is accomplished by specifying a numerical value for the aspect ratio.

49. (currently amended) The method of claim [[43]] 47wherein the specification of an arbitrary aspect ratio is accomplished by specifying a length and a width for a photograph.